

the energy CONNECTION

DECEMBER 2021

Saving Energy All Year Long

A brand new year is right around the corner, and the Energy Office wants to remind everyone about ways to keep your energy costs down all year long. The Energy Office launched an online Energy Saver Tool and website in 2020 that can be accessed at EnergySaver.SC.GOV. This tool offers an easy way for the public to answer a few simple questions and be shown energy-saving and financing programs available to them in one central, online location. Users can also search programs by category or by program name to find specific program information.

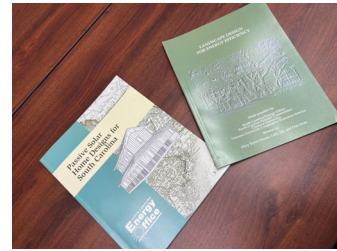
[Learn more](#)



Available: Passive Solar Home Designs for South Carolina and Landscape Design for Energy Efficiency Books

The Energy Office has copies of the following publications available at no cost:

- Passive Solar Home Designs for South Carolina
- Landscape Design for Energy Efficiency Booklet



To request a copy of one or both of these publications, [contact us](#).

ASCEM Scholarship Nominations Due February 15th

The Mark A. Martin Association of South Carolina Energy Managers (ASCEM) Scholarship is designed to assist ASCEM members with education expenses of their family members. The student must be a graduating senior from a South Carolina school and must plan to continue their education in some form after graduation. Applications for the \$1,000 scholarship are due February 15, 2022.



[Learn more](#)

US Department of Energy Celebrates Signing of Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act

ENERGY.GOV

Office of
ENERGY EFFICIENCY &
RENEWABLE ENERGY

On November 15, the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act was signed into law. The infrastructure deal includes more than \$62 billion for the US Department of Energy to deliver a more equitable clean energy future for the American people.

[Read more](#)

ASCEM Award Nominations

During the 2022 Tri Association Conference, awards will be given for [Energy Manager of the Year](#) and [Energy Project of the Year](#). Applications are due February 15, 2022.

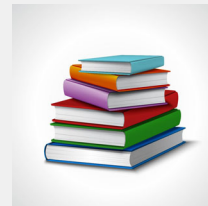
[Learn more](#)



Competitive Grant Funding for K-12 Schools

The [Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act](#) will include a total of \$500 million in competitive grant funding for K-12 school districts and schools. This funding will be through the US Department of Energy for energy efficiency, renewable energy, and alternative fuel vehicle upgrades. The focus will be on rural school districts.

[Learn more](#)



Fall 2021 ACEM Graduates

Offered by the Energy Office and the Association of South Carolina Energy Managers, the 21st Accredited Commercial Energy Manager (ACEM) course was held via webinar on November 15-19, 2021. Through this course, students learned about energy management principles and how to evaluate the energy efficiency of equipment within their own facilities. This challenging course culminated with an exam on the final day. The following graduates accepted this challenge, passed the exam, and are now Accredited Commercial Energy Managers, or ACEMs. **Congratulations to these graduates!**

Fall 2021 ACEM Graduates



SC Accredited Commercial Energy Manager Graduates

1. John Atkinson, Beaufort County School District
2. David Bayer, Michelin Tire
3. Billy Blackburn, Harris Integrated Solutions
4. Grant Bouknight, Dominion Energy
5. Jon Paul Churdar, Southern Coker Power
6. Geoffrey Gillespie, Duke Energy
7. Gary Hinton, Dominion Energy
8. Brandon Jackson, Total Comfort Solutions
9. Brian Kelly, SC Energy Office
10. Allston Lipscomb, Newberry Electric Cooperative
11. Katie McKain, City of Charleston
12. Hyleah O'Quinn, SC Energy Office
13. Julie Pfeiffer, NC Energy Office
14. Johnny Ray, Total Comfort Solutions
15. Max Reid, Southern Coker Power
16. Yash Srivastava, Clemson University
17. Richelle Tolton, SC Energy Office

South Carolina Office of Resilience Developing a Statewide Resilience Plan

The South Carolina Office of Resilience is in the process of developing a state [Resilience Plan](#). The agency is seeking input from citizens around the state about their experiences with flooding in order to better inform the Resilience Plan. Citizens are encouraged to complete [this survey](#) to share details about flooding in their areas and to encourage their communities to complete the survey as well. A printable flyer with links and information about the survey can be accessed on the [South Carolina Office of Resilience](#) website. The



Energy Office will be collaborating with the Office of Resilience in the future to help address issues regarding energy resilience.

[Learn more](#)

Tri-Association Conference March 12-15, 2022 – Registration Information

The annual Tri-Association of Facility Managers Conference—which includes information for those involved with ASCEM, the Association of State Planning and Construction Officials, and the SC Association of Physical Plant Administrators—will be held March 12-15, 2022 in Myrtle Beach, SC. Registration will be open in January 2022. Vendor booth and sponsorship opportunities are available. White papers for sessions topics are also being accepted. For questions about the conference, registration, vendor booths, or sponsorship opportunities, please contact Tom Jones via [email](#) or at 864-643-6028.



SC Tri Association of Facility Managers

[Learn more](#)

South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control Awards Eleven South Carolina Schools as 'Champions of the Environment'

The South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control announced eleven South Carolina schools as recipients of awards supporting efforts to educate the next generation of environmental stewards. "[Champions of the Environment](#)" awards are issued each school year to foster environmental education and action in South Carolina's classrooms, from kindergarten through 12th grade.



[Learn more](#)

Efficient and Healthy Schools Campaign Launched

The US Department of Energy (USDOE), with support from Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, the US Environmental Protection Agency, and the US Department of Education, has launched an Efficient and Healthy Schools campaign to engage K-12



schools to improve energy performance and indoor air quality in school buildings. The campaign aims to help schools identify practical HVAC solutions and upgrades to improve energy efficiency while promoting healthier spaces for teaching and learning. [Joining the campaign is easy and free](#). Start by filling out a simple form to provide some basic information about your school.

[Learn more](#)

Upcoming Events



**2022 Transportation Association
of SC Annual Training Event, Expo
& Bus Rodeo**
March 3- 6, 2022
Westin Hilton Head Island Resort & Spa

[Learn more](#)



**Save the Date: Tri-Association
Conference**
March 12 - 15, 2022
Myrtle Beach, SC

[Learn more](#)

Additional News & Resources

[\\$15M Solar, Agricultural Project on Tap For SC's Richland County](#)

[Grant Opportunity for Agricultural Producers or Rural Small Businesses: USDA REAP Energy Audit and Renewable Energy Development Assistance Program](#)

[Participating in Power: How to Read and Respond to Integrated Resource Plans - A Guide for Local Governments and Other Advocates](#)

About the South Carolina Energy Office

The Energy Office, housed within the South Carolina Office of Regulatory Staff, serves as the principal energy planning entity for the state. The mission of the Energy Office is to advance South Carolina's energy strategy and policy through education and outreach. The Energy Office promotes the efficient use of all energy sources. In addition, the Energy Office encourages energy efficiency, renewable energy, and clean transportation through a broad range of initiatives that include developing the State Energy Plan, providing technical assistance, offering financial assistance, conducting education and outreach, and maintaining an energy data resource.



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